Region 7 News

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Wounded Warrior Project

A white elephant auction will be held at the Region 7 rally, Wings, Rails, & End Zones, to support Wisconsin's Wounded Warrior Project.

Search your closets, cupboards, and garages to find something you can live without (I'm sure most of us will have no problem with that! RV items would be great!) and bring it to the rally in a brown paper bag. It'll be more fun if you write a few clues on the outside of the bag.

The Wounded Warrior Project, organized February 23, 2005, provides vital programs and services to severely wounded service members and veterans in order to support their transition to civilian life as well-adjusted citizens, both physically and mentally. The mission of the organization is to honor and empower wounded warriors. Their purpose is threefold: to raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of severely injured service men and women; to help severely injured service members aid and assist each other; and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs. Their vision is to foster the most successful and well-adjusted generation of wounded warriors in our nation's history.

Our donation to the Wounded Warrior Project enables them to help the thousands of wounded warriors returning home from current conflicts and to provide assistance to their families. Forty-three thousand men and women have been injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. Many veterans have received injuries ranging from missing limbs to traumatic brain injuries to post traumatic stress disorder.

We owe our freedom to our Vets and this is a nice way to give a little back to them!

A veteran's Alive Day is the day he or she suffered near-fatal battlefield injuries yet managed to survive. On March 6, 2003, Ian Lennon suffered third-degree burns over more than 30 percent of his body (on his hands and face) while serving near Kuwait. Now, he is an inspiration to other wounded warriors. "If it wasn't for the Wounded Warrior Project I would probably still be in a hospital bed feeling sorry for myself. Now I know that there is so much life ahead of me." After his near death experience, Ian now is a productive office worker for the local fire department. As the numbers of wounded steadily increases, it's easy to see how the needs of these brave individuals also increases.

We owe our freedom to our Vets and this is a nice way to give a little back to them!

Presidents' Message

My term as a region officer will come to an end in July, 2012 when Linda Agre will be installed at the international rally as the new region president for the next two years. The members in our units have been extremely gracious and exceedingly helpful in every way possible, but now someone needs to step up and fill the second vice president position so Region 7 can continue to exist. Linda needs help! How can she do it by herself? Please consider volunteering for this position! I guarantee you will have a lot of fun and an excellent time in the club while you serve.

Final details are being made to the Region 7 Wings, Rails, & End Zones Rally. Sites are still available at the campground; however, the manager anticipates that it will be full during the week of the rally. Don't delay to reserve your campsite; cancellations are accepted if the need arises. As EAA Airventure and Lambeau Field tickets need to be purchased two weeks in advance of the rally, the Treasurer Pete Yanke needs to receive all rally fees by July 8. The rally program will be posted on the region website shortly before the rally starts. We are attending opening day at the EAA

Airventure where an REO Speedwagon concert is the headline entertainment. The concert is included in the ticket price. Scooters are available to rent and free trams will travel around the grounds.

A white elephant auction will be held during the rally; the proceeds will support the Wounded Warrior Project. Search your closets, cupboards, and garages to find something you can live without (I'm sure most of us will have no problem with that! RV items would be great!) and bring it to the rally in a brown paper bag. We owe our freedom to our Vets and this is a nice way to give a little back to them. Our donation to the Wounded Warrior Project enables them to help the thousands of wounded warriors returning home from current conflicts and to provide assistance to their families.

Once again, all of the units in Region 7 have qualified for a Unit Merit Award. Region 7 is one of three regions who qualified 100% of their units for 2010. Congratulations to members and officers for their participation and leadership in making their units' activities enjoyable for everyone.

The International Convention/Rally in Du Quoin is just a few weeks away. A map to the rally site, the Illinois State Fairgrounds, is available in recent Blue Beret issues. Surrounding the Du Quoin area are many interesting sites to see and entertaining things to do. Many references have been made in past Blue Berets for some fascinating spots. Get out your yellow shirts and other yellow garb to wear at the rally. There even is a yellow category in the photo contest this year. Bring your pull tabs, hats, lap robes, personal items for the needy, stuffed animals, and children's books to the rally. Monetary donations will be accepted for the Cents for Kids program, humane society, and the local food pantry. The Bloodmobile will be on site on June 29. Check out information on the Region 7 luncheon and Fourth of July picnic in separate articles in this newsletter. You won't want to miss either event!

The vote on the proposed revised constitution has been postponed to the 2012 Delegates' Meeting. Our units' members received information on the proposed constitution in newsletters and emails. They had an opportunity to review, discuss, and vote on the proposed constitution at their spring business meetings and were ready and prepared to have their delegates vote this year on June 30. The outcome of the Delegates' vote on the revised constitution will directly affect the future of Region 7 and our units. Also, many changes in the proposed constitution are dependent upon a future rewrite of the bylaws, which at this time are not known. Therefore, I am not in favor of the proposed revised constitution.

Sidra Spies, who writes the article "What Airstream Women Want to Know" in issues of the Blue Beret, is requesting recipes and helpful hints for everything to do with the Airstream lifestyle. Her email address is sssbiol@yahoo.com. Contributors to the article will receive credit and units can also note contributions in the Merit Award Program.

I hope to see you all in Du Quoin and De Pere.

Region 7 Luncheon Update

By Linda Agre

The date of the Region 7 luncheon at the 54th International Rally in Du Quoin, Illinois has been changed from Thursday, June 30, to Wednesday, June 29. The time is the same, 11:30 a.m., the place is the same, Tuscany Grill, 1664 S. Washington, and the price is the same at \$12.00 per person.

Due to a conflict with the Delegates' Meeting on June 30, Joan and I changed the date. We were afraid we would have a slight case of indigestion after the morning session (just kidding!). Changing it to Wednesday will give us more time to visit and relax with no pressure to get back to the meeting.

We hope all rally goers will join us. Also, it would be so much fun to install a new Region 7 Second Vice President! I can't do this job by myself. HELP!!!!

Fourth of July Picnic

The Region 7 Fourth of July picnic will be held under Joan and Mike Lahr's awning (WBCCI # 223) from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, and dessert will be provided by the region. Please bring your lawn chairs, beverage, and tableware for a relaxing afternoon with members of your region.

Region Rally Checklist for Unit Presidents

- Unit flag, flag pole, and stand. Bring your unit flag, pole, stand, and merit banners. Unit presidents or their designated alternate present the flags during opening ceremony.
- Flag ceremony dress code. Dress for unit presidents or their designated alternate is white shirt or blouse, red tie or scarf, dark pants or skirt, black or dark shoes, and official Blue Beret.
- Region 7 board of directors meeting. Elected officers and unit
 presidents or their designated alternate make up the region
 board of directors. Dress for the region board and appointed
 officers at the board of directors meeting is Region 7 polo shirt
 or any white shirt or blouse and dark pants or skirt.

International Rally Checklist for Unit Presidents

- Unit flag and flag pole. Bring your unit flag, pole, and merit banners. Unit presidents or their designated alternate use the flags during opening and closing ceremonies. There will be an opening ceremony practice. Only bring poles to the practice.
- Flag ceremony dress code. Dress for unit presidents or their designated alternate is white shirt or blouse, red tie or scarf, dark pants or skirt, black or dark shoes, and official Blue Beret.
- Delegate/alternate authorization form.
- Unit publication contest entries (directory and newsletter).
- Unit bulletin board.